

Message Text

SECRET

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44

ORIGIN EUR-12

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DRAFTED BY EUR/WE:REBARBOUR:MJK

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EUR - MR. LAINGEN

S/S-MR. MOFFAT

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY LISBON IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 007791

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO

SUBJECT: SOCIALIST MEETING AT HELSINGOR

1. YOU SHOULD SEEK EARLIEST APPOINTMENT WITH MARIO SOARES TO DISCUSS JANUARY 18-19 SOCIALIST MEETING AT HELSINGOR, BACKGROUND TO WHICH WITH U.S. VIEWS AND OBJECTIVES IN ACCOMPANYING SEPTTEL.

2. PARTICULAR PROBLEM OF PORTUGAL LIES IN SOARES' CALL FOR JOINT MEETING OF PORTUGUESE, FRENCH, SPANISH AND ITALIAN COMMUNIST AND SOCIALIST PARTIES. AS POINTED OUT IN ROME'S 18281, SOARES' SEEMINGLY UNQUESTIONING SYMPATHY FOR WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES GIVES THE IMPRESSION THAT HE EQUATES THE GOALS OF SOCIALISTS AND COMMUNISTS.

3. SOARES POSITION HAS SERIOUS LONG-TERM DISADVANTAGES TO HIS OWN POSITION. HAVING FAILED IN THEIR EFFORTS TO
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CAPTURE THE GOVERNMENT BY BOTH SUBVERSION AND VIOLENCE,

PCP NOW HOPES TO REBUILD ITSELF, USING, IN PART, AN ALLIANCE OR COALITION WITH THE SOCIALISTS. TO THE EXTENT HE LENDS HIMSELF TO THIS TACTIC, HE WILL BE UNDERMINING THE PSP'S OWN FUTURE.

4. YOU SHOULD ALSO TELL SOARES THAT OUTSIDE OF PORTUGAL HIS CALLS FOR A SOCIALIST COMMUNIST PARTY MEETING MORTGAGES HIS OWN PRESTIGE TO THE GOOD BEHAVIOR OF EUROPE'S COMMUNIST PARTIES, THUS UNDERMINING HIS FELLOW SOCIALISTS' EFFORTS TO WIN RANK AND FILE SUPPORT FOR CLEAR-CUT SOCIALIST ALTERNATIVE. THERE IS NO EVIDENCE THAT, TACTICAL OR EVEN IDEOLOGICAL DIFFERENCES NOTWITHSTANDING, THE ULTIMATE AIMS OF NON-PORTUGUESE COMMUNIST PARTIES ARE ANY MORE COMPATIBLE WITH DEMOCRACY THAN THOSE OF ALVARO CUNHAL.

5. MAKE SURE SOARES UNDERSTANDS THE IMPORTANCE OF HELSINGOR MEETING AND OF THE NEED TO HEAD OFF THERE ANY MOVEMENT TOWARD ENDORSEMENT BY EUROPEAN SOCIALISTS OF ALLIANCES WITH COMMUNIST PARTIES EITHER IN GENERAL OR IN SPECIFIC COUNTRIES. IN HISTORICAL CONTEXT, THERE IS NO DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE TWO.

6. TELL SOARES SECRETARY IS HOPING TO SEE HIM AT 4:00 P.M. ON JANUARY 26. KISSINGER

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NNN

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